IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applicant: Christopher H. Genly	§	Art Unit: 2654
	§	
Serial No.: 09/494,796	§	
	§	Examiner: Angela Armstrong
Filed: January 31, 2000	§	
	§	
For: Providing Information in	§	Atty Docket: ITL.0343US
Response to Spoken Requests	§	P8394

Board of Patent Appeals & Interferences
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

REPLY BRIEF

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Sir:

In response to the new arguments contained in the Examiner's answer, Applicant

responds as follows:

CLAIM ONE

The Examiner argues that *Haddock* teaches attribute value pairs. But the Examiner

argues that "*Haddock* produces a syntactic structure based upon a question/sentence format to

represent set of questions, a set of nouns, a set of phrases and a set of verbs". Thus, even by the

Examiner's statement, *Haddock* attempts to grammatically define the sentence in order to claim

its understanding. After making this point and admission, the Examiner then simply concludes

that what *Haddock* does is to develop attribute value pairs. But there is no support for this and it

certainly is discredited by his own admission that *Haddock* used a grammatical approach to

trying to discern meaning.

Claim 1 calls for developing a state vector representing the meaning of a query including attribute value pairs for the state vector. A state vector is a representation of the meaning of an utterance by the user made up of attribute value pairs.

Thus for example, a request for "When is X-Files on?" includes an attribute and a value. The request is an attribute whose value is when. The query has title attribute whose value is X-Files. Thus by having a series of attributes and assigning them different values, one can readily simplify sentence structure in a way no where suggested by *Haddock*.

For example, if the questions were when is X-Files on today, or when is X-Files on next week, or when is X-Files on tomorrow, these all may have the same attribute (with respect to when) but that attribute might have different values, those values being today, next week, or tomorrow, respectively. Thus a structure may be developed which enables simplification.

This concept of an attribute which is capable of having different values and the simplification it achieves is no where suggested in *Haddock*. *Haddock's* grammatical approach overlooks this claimed approach which results in considerable ability to simplify speech analysis. Therefore the rejection of claim 1 should be reversed.

Respectfully requested,

Date: 1/14/03

Timothy N. Trop, Reg. No. 28,994
TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.
8554 Katy Freeway, Ste. 100
Houston, TX 77024
713/468-8880 [Phone]
713/468-8883 [Fax]

21906